

Showing in February

Come on in the beautiful Spring Harbor theater
and enjoy a movie! Bring your friends
and make it fun! Movie shows daily
at 2pm and 7:15pm.
Ask Life Enrichment to start the movie for you!
After hours, see the Concierge Desk!



Feb. 2nd-8th
2 hours 16 mins

Hidalgo **2004** **PG13**
Desert Adv/Western/Drama/Action

In 1890, a down-and-out cowboy and his horse travel to Arabia to compete in a deadly cross desert horse race. Stars Viggo Mortensen and Omar Sharif



Feb. 9th-15th
1 hour 33 mins

Apollo 11 **2019** **G**
Documentary/History

A look at the Apollo 11 mission to land on the moon led by commander Neil Armstrong and pilots Buzz Aldrin and Mike Collins.



Feb. 16th-22nd
2 hours 5 mins

Big Fish **2003** **PG13**
Adventure/Fairytale/Drama/Romance

A frustrated son tries to determine the fact from fiction in his dying father's life. Starring Ewan McGregor and Albert Finney



Feb. 23rd-March 1st
1 hour 41 mins

Dog **2022** **PG13**
Comedy/Drama/Buddy Comedy

Two hard-charging former Army Rangers paired against their will, Briggs and a Belgian Malinois named Lulu, race down the Pacific Coast in hopes of making it to a fellow soldier's funeral on time. Stars Channing Tatum and Ryder McLaughlin

Residents: If you have any trouble while watching a movie, please get a team member.
DO NOT TRY TO ADJUST THE EQUIPMENT IN THE THEATER YOURSELF!

Fine Dining Room

Hours: Monday—Saturday 11:00am till 7:00pm

Reservations are required if 5 or more..

Dining Room is closed on Sunday.

Sunday Brunch is served in the Formal Dining Room and

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR BRUNCH

11:00am till 2:00pm

Casual attire/No hats/ No jeans (Jeans ok at Sunday brunch)

Blue Heron Bar & Grill

Hours: Monday-Saturday 7:00am till 7:00pm

Closed on Sunday

Now offering hot breakfast daily,
new menu items and
new Grab-N-Go case options!

Casual attire/Sporty/Jeans ok

The Current is a monthly publication by the Life Enrichment Department of Spring Harbor at Green Island, in beautiful Columbus, Georgia. A fine living continuing care retirement community. *Creator: Pat Haney*



Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpringHarborSeniorLiving



The Current

Visit us at www.springharborseniorliving.org

January 2026

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Jean Puckett, wife of the late COL Ralph Puckett, stands on Hurley Hill in Ft. Benning, as the new 7' tall bronze statue of her decorated husband is being placed there in his honor. COL Puckett requested to be placed here - where the Rangers are forged and where the newest Ranger-qualified Soldiers and their families would pass under his watchful gaze and respectful salute.

(See the story inside on page)

Welcome Home New Resident's:

Dan & Bernadette Murphy

Villa # 16



McDougall's Message

“Why Community Still Matters”

In a world that moves faster every year, one thing has never lost its value: community. The need for connection, belonging, and a shared purpose remains as important as ever. Community is more than shared walls or familiar hallways. It’s the morning greetings that turn into conversations, the friendly faces at the dining table, and the comfort of knowing someone will notice if you’re not around. It’s laughter during an activity, quiet support during a tough day, and the ease of being among people who understand one another. I see the importance of community every day in the small moments—neighbors checking in on each other, friendships forming over coffee, stories being shared that span lifetimes. These moments may seem simple, but they are powerful. They remind us that connection isn’t just pleasant; it’s essential. It gives us purpose, belonging, and reassurance that we are never truly alone. Community also has a way of lifting us up. It encourages us to stay engaged, to try new things, and to show up for one another.

At Spring Harbor our leadership team and staff work to create a welcoming atmosphere so that you all can enjoy each other’s company. Whether it’s a planned event, a shared meal, or an unexpected conversation, each connection strengthens the fabric of our community. As we go about our days, I encourage you to make a connection with a new resident or visit a resident on our Health Center to brighten their day. There are many ways we come together here and the connection between fellow residents is what makes Spring Harbor a home for all. I am continually inspired by the connections I see each day from both residents and staff members. Thank you all for being such an important part in our amazing community!

Shane McDougall



Executive Director
Shane McDougall

Mission Statement - The Current Newsletter:

“Our newsletter is a monthly celebration of life in our community – a space to share stories, stay informed, and stay connected. Through updates, reflections, and uplifting moments, we aim to foster a sense of belonging, purpose, and joy for every resident.”

The Spring Harbor Foundation would like to thank the following donors for their contributions:

In Memory of Jim Gates: Cheryl Mortenson

In Memory of Ralph Puckett:
Cheryl Mortenson

In Memory of Janice VanMeter:
Mim Hallock, Norm & Jan Bennett

In Memory of Charles Harbour:
Bill & Judee Turner, Gail Jebavy

In Memory of Joyce Fingerhut:
Tom & Sherry Wade, Mim Hallock,
Erwin Key, Sheron Williams

In Honor of David Durant: Bill Edwards

Legacy Society: Gib & Freddie Richardson

In Honor of Jeanne Puckett:

Bill Edwards

In Honor of Betty Thompson:

Bill Edwards

In Honor of Year 2026:

Erwin Key

In Memory of David Durant’s cat, “Camille”:

Barbara Waller, Norm & Jan Bennett

Foundation General Fund:

Karen Wylie, Bill & Nell Scrantom,
Chris Weaver, Phil & Sharon Engstrom,
Erwin Key, Butch Deaton, Monty Thorne,
Flo Lipham



Employee of the Month:
Anita McClendon
Concierge Desk



Our 2025 Winter Calendar Challenge Winner is Peggy Bladen!!

She consistently showed up, stayed engaged, and truly embraced the spirit of community throughout the challenge.

She finished with a score of 2,490! This challenge was designed to encourage connection, participation, and trying something new during December. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make this winter season such an active and social one! Keep in tune for the

SPRING CALENDAR CHALLENGE!

Details coming soon!

Look Out Bowlers!

To all the residents that are in our Wii Bowling Leagues! Look out for this team! The Alley Cats are starting off with a BANG! L-R are: Dot Stotser, Judith Degenaar and Martha Hill. Dot almost bowled a PERFECT game at 299!



Judith also did great with 289 points and Martha was close with a 257!! Keep your eyes on this team!

Trivia Answers

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Jane. | 2. Lions. |
| 3. Goats. | 4. Scotland Yard. |
| 5. Hydrophobia. | 6. Hello / goodbye. |
| 7. The ear | 8. New Jersey. |
| 9. Leopard. | 10. Isaac Newton. |
| 11. Scotland. | 12. Beagle. |



Childhood Days *From Norm Bennett*

Running through the sprinklers,
chasing down the ice cream truck,
riding bikes with friends in
the neighborhood, swinging so
high that the poles lifted up out of
the ground, picking plums and
catching fireflies!

No internet, No cell phones, No iPads,
No laptops, No social media, and we
headed home when the street lights came on!
Those were the best summers of my childhood,
How lucky I was to have grown up before
technology took over the world!



Residents vs Staff Chair Volleyball Game

Join everyone in the Event Center on Wednesday, February 25th and watch the residents challenge the employees to a great game of chair volleyball!

RESIDENTS ARE THE RED TEAM
STAFF ARE THE BLUE TEAM

Everyone please try to wear a shirt in the color of THE TEAM you represent!

**Be at the volleyball court at 2:15
to play, or just to watch and cheer them on!**
Game starts at 2:30!

February Birthdays



Cheryl Mortensen	3rd
John Hargrove	5th
Alice Barlow	6th
Beth Loftin	6th
Beth Thrift	7th
Susan Halmrast	10th
Linda Brannen	11th
Beth Brooks	11th
Leroy Paul	11th
Joan Scott	11th
Sally Gates	14th
Raylene Parker	17th

Joan Camp	19th
Erwin Key	19th
Bill Burgess	20th
Pam Kopec	21st
Kay Winn	22nd
Seth Harp	26th
<u>Early March B-days:</u>	
Mike LaFramboise	1st
Judith Degenaar	3rd
Marylou Stone	3rd
Aki Kan	4th

If your birthday is in the month of February, you and one guest may join us on the third Thursday of the month for cake and champagne! Join us in the Arts & Crafts Room on Thursday, Feb. 19th at 2:00pm

January Birthday Party



Special thanks to Brenda Hamby and Synovus for providing us with our beautiful birthday cake!



L-R are: Lucy Tresp, George Stewart, Sam & Lee Miles, Jim Hollander, Sonny & Pat Gill, Betty Myrtle, Betty Brantley, Betty Nicholson, Gail & Mike LaFramboise and Deborah Edwards.

George Stewart Celebrates His Birthday with friends in the Blue Heron



YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN A RECLINER AND A HEATING PAD IS YOUR IDEA OF A HOT DATE



Reminder to All Pet Owners at Spring Harbor: You **MUST** pick up your pet's waste! There are pet waste stations all over our community. Please dispose of the dirty bags in the pet waste station cans. **DO NOT** bring dirty bags back into the building to throw away!



Welcome to Council Corner YOUR monthly news, from YOUR Resident Council Happy New Year!

It is hard to believe we have had two years of snow in January in a row but lucky to have it melt quickly this year.

As we begin 2026, the Resident Council remains dedicated to supporting Spring Harbor's mission of excellence. The Resident Council serves in an advisory capacity and provides meaningful input to Spring Harbor's management. However, the true strength of our community lies in active resident participation.

Your 2026 Spring Harbor Resident Council



George Stanton, Karen Wylie, Adley Scott, Norm Bennett, Sandee Scruggs, Sam Miles, Barbara Waller, Will Sanders. Mike Hill, Rosemary Addison, Judi Ebert, Jim Hutcheson, David Durant, missing-Gib Richardson.

Resident engagement is essential—by attending forums and sharing your perspectives, you help shape decisions and drive positive change. Your voice matters and is vital to the continued success and improvement of Spring Harbor. Your input helps shape the future of Spring Harbor. Let's work together to make 2026 a successful year for everyone.

February Forums/Town Hall

- Feb. 4th: SH Operations (Building/Security)/Housekeeping/Grounds: 10:30, Arts & Craft Room
- Feb. 5th: Dining: 2:00, Event Center
- Feb. 6th: Resident Connections-Activities/IT/Welcoming: 10:30, Arts & Craft Room
- Feb. 17th Town Hall: 10:30, Event Center

Sandee Scruggs, Chair, Spring Harbor Resident Council



Chef Marc Says Goodbye!

Our amazing and talented Chef Marc is engaged and taking his family to live near family in New Jersey! We love you Marc and we all wish you and your family the best in your new journey! Spring Harbor was so fortunate to have Marc with us for years and he certainly will be missed by the residents, his team members and all the staff. Spring Harbor is grateful for all that Chef did for our residents, their families and our staff!



Spring Harbor Foundation

Foundation News

Celebration time, come on!!

*There's a party going on right here
A celebration to last throughout the years
So bring your good times and your laughter too
We gon' celebrate and party with you!!
Kool & The Gang – 1980*

Foundation & Legacy Society members gathered January 29, 2026 to celebrate the Foundation's most successful year since its inception in 2009. It was a spectacular evening with good wine, fine food, laughter and good fellowship. Bob Ammerman and Shane McDougall shared their excitement for not only what the Foundation has accomplished, but its promise for the future. Bob and Shane applauded Society members for their generosity and continued commitment.

The **Foundation Society** is comprised of residents who recognize the value of empowering Spring Harbor with the financial resources to create and maintain the highest standards in senior living by supporting projects and programs that **enhance quality of life for residents and invest in the future of Spring Harbor**. The program recognizes incremental levels of annual giving from \$100 to \$5,000 and above. Eighty six resident households achieved recognition status for 2025.

The **Legacy Society** is comprised of residents who have expressed intent to include the Foundation in their estate plan. Fourteen residents have made that commitment thus far. We encourage more residents to join that elite group.

A plaque has been placed in the lobby recognizing the 2025 **Foundation and Legacy Society** members.



**Bob Ammerman
Chairman**



Mike & Gail LaFramboise



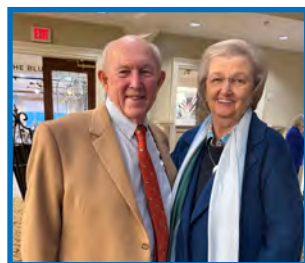
Bill Edwards & Sally Gates



Gib & Freddie and Brenda



Chris Weaver



Bob Ammerman & Sandee Scruggs

Thank you for your support of the Spring Harbor Foundation

Residents Helping Residents

February Fun



Let's make chocolate covered strawberries for **Valentines Day!**

Thursday
February 12th
1:30pm ACR
with Pat!

There will be many of you to sign up for this fun event, but all names will be put into a basket and we will draw 12 winners to be in the class! Sign up sheet will go out Feb. 2nd, and we will notify you if you win a seat in the class!



Trivia by Margie

1. Who was Tarzan's girlfriend?
2. What group of animals is called a pride?
3. From what do we get cashmere?
4. What is the name of the headquarters of London's Metro police?
5. What is the fear of water called?
6. What does the Italian word CIAO mean in English?
7. What is the smallest bone in the human body?
8. What state is nicknamed the Garden State?
9. What wildcat is known for its distinctive black spots?
10. What 17th century physicist discovered gravity?
11. Where was golf invented?
12. In the comic strips, what kind of dog is Snoopy?

(answers on page 15)

Spring Harbor APP



Do you have the Spring Harbor APP installed on your iPhone or smart phone?

If not, please take time to stop by our Life Enrichment department and let us install the APP on your phone. (You MUST bring your Apple ID password with you for us to download the APP to your phone.)

Here are some things you can do in our APP:

Look at the Resident Directory, get other residents' phone numbers, see daily Dining Room and Blue Heron menus, read books, play games and so much more! View activities, see our Staff Directory, view our Life Enrichment calendar, and when you have the APP, we can send you messages such as reminders and cancellations!

A NEW APP is coming soon, but please use the one we have until we get the new one!

Made You Laugh!

BACK IN MY DAY, THE ONLY TIME WE STARTED PANIC BUYING. . . . WAS WHEN THE BARTENDER SHOUTED "LAST CALL"

Seek-And-Find



Seek-And-Find! Be the first resident to find this Mona Lisa and a snowman, you win a prize! Once you find it, call Pat Haney 706-576-6017 and leave a message stating exactly where you found it and your name. My phone will record the date and time you called, and I will know who called first!

Have Fun looking for it!

Last months winner was Sandee Scruggs!

(the blackbird was on page 6, sitting on the fence in pic #6, the bicycle was on page 13, its propped at the front of the grocery store, and the wreath was on page 14, sitting on top of the birthday cake)

Weekly Sheet News

Most residents pick up their "weekly sheet" of activities, from the sign-up desk on the 3rd floor and that's great! But if you would rather have the "weekly sheet" **emailed to you**, simply stop by Sarah-Kate's office and let her know you want it emailed, give her your email address, and she will be more than happy to include YOU when she emails it out each week!

New Providers Join Piedmont Columbus Regional

Piedmont proudly welcomes vascular surgeon **Robert Heidepriem III**, M.D., FACS, RPVI. He completed a general surgery residency at Baptist Health in Birmingham, and a vascular surgery fellowship at the University of Tennessee at Memphis. Dr. Heidepriem’s specializes in hemodialysis access, peripheral vascular disease, peripheral artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysm, deep vein thrombosis and carotid endarterectomy. He is accepting new patients at Piedmont Heart Institute of Columbus, joining **Trey Keadle**, M.D., at that location.

Piedmont Columbus Midtown welcomes critical care surgeon **Lois Sakorafas**, M.D. She completed her residency in general surgery at Montefiore Medical Center in New York. Dr. Sakorafas has also completed fellowships in acute trauma care surgery, surgical trauma critical care and cardiac surgery crucial care. She has over 20 years of clinical and surgical experience and earned a robotic technology training certification with hospital robotic privileges.

Piedmont Physicians welcomes **Njoud Jweihaan**, M.D., back to the Piedmont family. Dr. Jweihaan completed a family medicine residency at Piedmont Columbus Regional. She earned her medical degree from American University of Integrative Medicine, St. Maarten/Atlanta. She is accepting new patients at Piedmont Physicians at Stadium Drive, joining **Dennis Harden**, M.D., and **Siraj Abdullah**, D.O., at that location.

Piedmont Physicians welcomes **Vipin Mathew**, D.O. He completed a family medicine residency at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University in Chicago. Prior to becoming a physician, he worked as a critical care respiratory therapist. Dr. Mathew’s clinical interests are musculoskeletal-related injuries and believes healing begins with listening and treating every patient as a whole person. He is accepting new patients at Piedmont Physicians at Riverchase, joining **Daryl Ellis**, M.D., at that location.



Robert Heidepriem



Lois Sakorafas



Njoud Jweihaan



Vipin Mathew

Youth Volunteer Program Now Accepting Applications

The application window is now open for the Piedmont Columbus Regional Auxiliary’s 2026 Youth Volunteer Program. The program is for high school students ages 14-18 looking to pursue careers in health care to see what it’s really like so they can make plans for their future. Students get volunteer opportunities in a variety of clinical and nonclinical settings at Piedmont Columbus Midtown, Northside, John B. Amos Cancer Center plus the Bill and Olivia Amos Children’s Hospital in departments like Nursing, Laboratory, Medical/Surgical Units, Radiology, Dietary, Oncology and Environmental Services.

Those who are interested can visit [Piedmont.org/ColumbusVolunteer](https://www.piedmont.org/ColumbusVolunteer) to view instructions and download required documents— including an application, school recommendation form, essay and health records. The application and required forms must be submitted by March 16.

Applicants will undergo an interview process, and the 2026 summer program will take place Monday through Thursday from June 15 through July 23. Special event volunteer opportunities are also available throughout the year.

Watercolors of Historic Georgia Churches Return, Plus One



In mid-January, all 10 of Gloria Sampson’s paintings of historic Georgia churches were rehung on the Third Floor of Spring Harbor’s Independent Living wing near the door to the Swimming Pool. There is now an exciting new 11th painting of the Infantry Chapel at Fort Benning hanging on the same hallway, in between the Card Room and the Billiards Room. The paintings are “on loan” from the Gloria Sampson Collection in the Columbus State University Archives on the CSU main campus. They were re-photographed for an upcoming book containing photographs of the whole Sampson collection of 103 paintings, which is to be printed soon by the CSU Press.

The Golden Gallery

Last chance to view “The Art of David Durant” exhibition in the Spring Harbor’s Golden Gallery. Come experience this breathtaking landscape exhibition in the Golden Gallery on the third floor hallway near the doctor’s office and viewable every day at any time! This exhibit ends Feb. 28th.



David’s late cat, “Camille”



*In Loving
Memory
Charles Harbour
Kathleen Jahosky*

New Resident Spotlight:
Donovan & Wilma Graham
Apartment #756

The Grahams moved to Spring Harbor from Fairview, North Carolina. He is a retired college professor, Dean and Chaplain and now directs a ministry called Space For God. She is a retired administrative assistant/office manager at the college where he worked. They have two sons in Columbus, a daughter in Chattanooga and another one in Little Rock. They also have 15 grands and great grands. Donovan’s hobbies include the outdoors, wood working, music and reading and Wilma enjoys cooking, reading and hospitality. They previously lived in Iceland doing missionary care. They were responsible for the spiritual nurturing and care for missionaries in various European and African countries and were able to be in places in the world they never could have imagined. Donovan says “our life has been a long series of great opportunities and adventures orchestrated by God, and that they happily wait for whatever he has for them in their remaining years.



Please give Donovan & Wilma a very warm welcome!

Did You Know:



Did you know. . . . That Spring Harbor's own David Durant will be teaching a Calligraphy writing class?! Yes he will, and we are super excited! Keep reading The Current and the monthly calendar for more details coming soon!

Did you know. That there is a National Umbrella Day in February?! Yes and we are going to have some fun with it! We will be taking a very special **BIG GROUP UMBRELLA PHOTO** of everyone holding their own umbrella. (similar to the one pictured here), All you have to do is grab your most colorful or most unique umbrella, and show up for the photo! Pat will be on the **BALCONY** in the **EVENT CENTER** on Tuesday, Feb. 10th at 1:30pm with her camera and she will need everyone to gather below for the photo. Please go out the front lobby door, go to the right and stand near the flag pole where she can see you from the 3rd floor balcony. She will instruct everyone when to open your umbrellas and we will make a beautiful spring photo! It's going to make a really unique photo and maybe Pat can send it to the Ledger Enquirer and ask them to print it in the paper!



Were going to need many people to participate to make the photo look great!

A Note From Greg Camp. . . . Did you know. . . When I moved into Spring Harbor last April, I was already aware of the Employee Gift fund as my mother had been a resident until 2019. Each year in December we would write a check for the wonderful service she received throughout the year. I assumed we would do the same until I talked to a friend who had moved here a year earlier. He suggested we make monthly contributions to the fund and that seemed like a good idea as it spreads out their well-earned annual bonus over 12 months. As an example, if a resident wished to make an annual gift of \$600, they would set up an auto draft for \$50 per month to cover their desired gift. A couple would make a \$100 per month auto draft that would cover both residents.

Should a resident wish to have their monthly contribution bank drafted directly from their account, it is very easy. If a resident has a Synovus account, you simply need to go see Brenda in our lobby branch and she will set it up for you. If you have an account with another bank you can set up a bill pay auto draft and have it sent to the address below. It will be forwarded to Brenda as she handles the Spring Harbor Employee Gift account.

Spring Harbor Employee Gift Fund 100 Spring Harbor Drive Columbus, GA 31904

Did you know. . . . Our own resident Fran Watt, has been creating and updating a unique book titled; *Spring Harbor Remembering Book*, since 2014. The book is kept in our Lobby, in the Men's Parlor. The pages are filled with names of residents who are no longer with us. It's for you to remember good conversations with interesting, accomplished friends from varied backgrounds, and appreciate the times and fun events with those friends at Spring Harbor. Reflect upon our good fortune to have known each and every one of them. Please stop by and view the book that Fran has worked on for years. Fran is retiring from this project and residents Phil & Trish Burgess will be taking the book over, to update it regularly and will continue to carry on its legacy.

~Special thanks to Fran Watt for creating this legacy for Spring Harbor~



Drone Photo



There's something about a snowfall that makes everything so peaceful outside. We are all blessed to live in a place that keeps us all warm and fed during a cold winter snow day!



Drone Photo



Drone Photo



Congratulations To Our WAM (Wellness Ambassador of the Month):

We are thrilled to celebrate our very first Wellness Ambassador of the Month, Mr. Carl Wallman! Carl is a great sport who always brings a positive attitude and a sense of fun to everything he does, no matter the challenge. Carl participates in strength and conditioning three times per week, mobility and balance twice per week, cornhole, and walking with his wife Linda. His advice for fellow residents: "The discipline of participating in wellness classes is important. Showing up to activities not only helps me physically but also creates a strong structure for my day." Fun fact about Carl, he once water-skied slalom style using a canoe paddle!



Snow Day

THANK YOU to everyone who sent the pretty snow day photos in to me! I wish I could have printed them all! I think these are the most beautiful ones! *Pat*



Good Stuff:



Birthday Fun!
Margie Cain hosted a group of friends at her home to celebrate the birthday of Lee Miles!



Perfectly Pink! Gail Jebavy's pink amaryllis is beautiful!



Margie Cain can now be called "Great grandmommy" by her first granddaughter's new baby, Harper Anne Parrish from Orlando, Florida.

Put on your Mardi Gras outfit on!

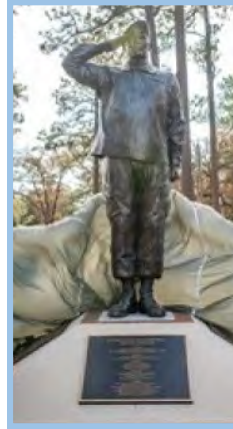
Mardi Gras Party

Fat Tuesday ~ February 17th
7:00 till 9:00pm
Event Center

DJ Rob will be with us to fill the dance floor with good music!
A King & Queen will be named!
There will be King Cake, snacks and the bar will be open!

Ft. Benning Hosts Ceremony to Dedicate Statue of Ralph Puckett Jr.

FORT BENNING, Ga. — A life-size statue of the late [Col. Ralph Puckett Jr.](#) was unveiled during a ceremony at Fort Benning on Nov. 25, 2025. The seven-foot-tall, bronze statue on Hurley Hill, overlooking Victory Pond, depicts him in Army duty uniform rendering a salute. This depiction was not chosen at random, and neither was the statue's location. Retired Col. Robert Choppa, president of the National Infantry Foundation — which spearheaded the memorial's construction — recalled Puckett wanted his likeness to be in the place where Rangers are forged and where the newest Ranger-qualified Soldiers and their families would pass under his watchful gaze and respectful salute. All current and future Rangers who pass through Fort Benning will now see a living reminder of what it truly means to embody the Ranger Creed, that **“Rangers lead the way,”** Choppa said.



For Jeannie, the permanent physical commemoration of him is one of the most meaningful additions to his long list of honors and awards. “This statue is an exact replica of my husband,” Jeannie said. “It is an amazing monument to the man he was and what he dedicated his life to.” Weeks before his passing, Jeannie said Puckett brought up the possible memorials: the likeness of him planned for inclusion in the Korean War Memorial, and the crowd-sourced commemoration at Hurley Hill. Jeannie said Puckett, thinking two statues would be too many, preferred the one overlooking Victory Pond. Jeannie recalled sharing her concerns that this statue's remote location deep within a wooded area of the installation might mean it would not be seen by as many people. In comparison, millions of people visit the National Infantry Museum each year and their memorial would even be lit at night. Puckett was undeterred for one heartfelt reason. “He looked at me and said, ‘Jeannie, over the last 12 years I’ve been out there at two and three in the morning every six weeks at the beginning of the Ranger Course. I’ve been there with the gnats and mosquitoes when it was hot and humid; I’ve been there when it was raining and I was soaking wet. I’ve been there when it was freezing cold and my hands were numb, but that’s where I want to be. I’m not worried because the Rangers have my back.’”

Note: Jeannie worked with Sean to try and get a bus to go to the ceremony but unfortunately there was no way we could take a bus trip for the residents because of the ground terrain where it is placed.

To read the article in its entirety, please go to www.army.mil/article/289283
Click on the article titled: Ft. Benning Hosts Dedication Ceremony for statue of COL Ralph Puckett Jr.

If you receive the Columbus and the Valley magazine, they have a 5 page article this month on the Pucketts and it's a very nice read.

EMPLOYEE GIFT FUND

Wanna Tip an Employee?

Spring Harbor doesn't allow tipping, but if you're anything like me, you often wish you could do something special for an employee who goes above and beyond. Starting this month, the Employee Gift Fund is stepping in to help.

For a \$50 gift, the employee you choose will receive a personal letter of appreciation - just between the two of you. Nothing will appear in The Current or anywhere else.

We hope many of you will join in. This program not only encourages our staff to continue delivering exceptional service, but also adds to the year-end bonus pool. Many residents already contribute \$500 annually, and this extra \$50 recognition will be a wonderful addition.

If you'd like to participate, stop by the Synovus Office today.

Norm Bennett

Happy Employees Mean Happy Residents

DON'T MISS THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

The silent auction for the beautifully framed, numbered, and signed edition of Bruno Zupan's *Studio Window* opens February 2. All residents are welcome to participate. The artwork is currently on display outside the Life Enrichment offices. The bidding sheet will be located next to the painting on the 3rd floor.



- Opening bid: \$500
- Bid increments: \$50 or more
- Auction ends: February 16
- Proceeds benefit: all Spring Harbor Employee Gift Fund

Play Mah Jongg! It's good for your brain.

The Spring Harbor Life Enrichment staff has always tried to provide a variety of activities to entertain us and occupy our time in positive ways. One of these activities, Mah Jongg, is in danger of being discontinued due to insufficient interest. We have only five players who play regularly, and some of us often have other obligations and conflicts which take priority. It takes a minimum of three players, and four is preferable, so we really need more players. A number of residents have expressed an interest in learning this game, but they never show up to play. The usual excuse is “it's too hard for me”. This is unfortunate because lifelong learning is vital to remaining mentally alert and functional. We have lots of activities which improve and maintain your physical health: the gym, yoga, exercise classes, and Wii bowling. We also need activities which maintain our brain health. Bridge, jigsaw puzzles, and crossword puzzles are good for mental exercise, but Mah Jongg may be superior to all of these. Studies indicate that playing Mah Jongg may actually prevent or stall mental decline: dementia and Alzheimer's disease. It also may reduce depression, boost self-esteem, and support memory. Mah Jongg is scheduled twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 PM in the 3rd floor Card Room. It does take a few weeks to become familiar with all the rules, but that's the thing that gives your brain exercise. We guide you through each step. The game is played with tiles similar to dominoes. We do not play for money. We invite everyone interested, to come and watch. If you would rather organize a group to play in the daytime, contact me and we can see if we can plan something. I am in the UniGuest app, resident directory.

Stephen Johnson, Apt.# 662

Keep Up
The
Good
Work

